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and renders a double service by so doing. He gives to the public a book which it can read with interest and understanding, and to the teacher a book which can be used with excellent results in the classroom. At the same time it is a book which represents the result of years of work by the foremost climatologist in this country.

The general plan of the book is to consider first the types of climates and the characteristics of the zones, following this discussion by chapters covering the life of man in the different zones. This plan of topical treatment is materially conducive to ease of reading and understanding. An intermediate chapter on the hygiene of the zones and a concluding chapter on changes of climate complete the volume. The preliminary chapters are largely a synopsis of Hann's work translated by the present author and explain, in terms intelligible to anyone, the way in which climatic conditions differ not only in different parts of the world, but also in different parts of the same zone. The concluding chapters consider man's relation to his climatic surroundings from the standpoint of his progress in civilization: his agriculture, arts, dwellings, clothing, customs, food, industries, transportation, and so on. The author makes no claim to presenting anything entirely new, but he can justly claim absolute originality in thus for the first time presenting a former heterogeneous mass of facts in an intelligible correlated whole.

The one serious defect, or perhaps disappointment rather than a defect, in the volume is its failure to discuss the question of acclimatization of white men in the tropics, an important aspect of the subject which has been much discussed among scientific men, but which has not been presented to the reading public in a thorough, impartial manner. To this particular aspect of climate and its relation to man, Professor Ward has given a vast amount of careful study and consideration. It is truly regrettable that the lack of space has kept his circle of readers from having an opportunity to benefit from this study. With that exception the book is entirely satisfactory, readable and suggestive, ably maintaining the high standard of literary excellence and scholarly merit for which the Science Series has long been noted.

WALTER S. TOWER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Wright, H. M. *A Handbook of the Philippines.* Pp. xvii, 431. Price, \$1.40. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

After the tremendous shower of magazine and controversial literature on the Philippines to which we were treated in the discussion period following our occupation, we have had several serious studies and, lastly, comes a carefully prepared handbook which might almost be called the commercial geography of the Philippines. This very satisfactory and well-illustrated, but rather too enthusiastic book, is the result of much careful study of the recent literature as well as the personal experience and rather extended travels of the author in the Philippines.

Rather less than one-half of the book deals formally with the people and

an equal amount deals formally with the resources and industries of the country.

The writer is much impressed with the tremendous possibilities of a land which is virtually unused and therefore uninhabited if the present production be compared to possible production. It is described as a land with an almost endless list of products, a climate favorable to production and a soil the like of which man has rarely met with in the occupation of the surface of the globe. This fertility is explained by the fact that much of the soil is volcanic deposit combined with alluvium. You somehow get the idea that it is practically all flooded annually. Hemp, sugar and tobacco, the great staples, are but in their infancy. "Sugar has been produced in the Philippines at from sixty to ninety cents per one hundred pounds. It can doubtless when produced by modern methods be laid down in New York at a little over one cent per pound."

In his enthusiasm for the islands, the author is, however, so carried away by the unquestioned fertility of the soil and its possible products that he permits himself to make statements which practically imply the successful acclimatization of Americans, and we are led to infer that the labor is of a very satisfactory character, but in an occasional sentence such as the following there is a lapse into a more sound appreciation of the economic. "Owing to the fact that maguey (the plant from which sisal fiber is derived) grows in the most unfertile regions where the people must work to live, adequate labor can be secured."

There is a quite general tendency in the book to confuse possibilities and probabilities.

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